

**VAN WIRT SAYS  
STATE OFFICIAL  
FORCED TRIBUTE**

Contractor Swears Public  
Works Deputy Held Him  
Up for \$1,500.

LAST PAYMENT OF  
\$3,500 FOWLER ASKED

Contract, He Asserts, Was  
Amended to Give \$40,000  
Additional Work.

HENNESSY ACCUSES

Intimates That Tammany Boss's  
Friend Was Partner in Six-  
teen Upstate Road Jobs.

Dudley E. Van Wirt, of the Flood & Van Wirt Engineering and Construction Company of Hudson Falls, was a witness before the grand jury for two hours and a half yesterday. He related in addition to his previous story of the \$500 check of his corporation accepted by George M. Palmer, the Democratic state chairman, a series of connecting incidents which it is said will eventually involve several state officials in the campaign fund graft.

The grand jury adjourned until today without voting any indictment, and it will proceed along the line of inquiry opened up by Van Wirt. It is certain now that Van Wirt's story and the further evidence to which it points the way will result in far more than the one indictment which was expected from his story when he first told it at the John Doe hearing on Tuesday.

Van Wirt himself, when he came out of the grand jury room, was both surprised and tired. He had expected to be called upon to put before that body the comparatively brief story of the corporation check for \$500 which he sent to George M. Palmer. Instead of that, it is understood, he was forced to tell the whole story of his dealings as the representative of his firm with both the Canal Board and the Highway Commission.

Says He Paid State Official.

The make-up of each of these boards, including as it did the membership of the Superintendent of Public Works, became of added significance when linked with the fact to which Van Wirt testified, that William J. Morrissey, first deputy in the Public Works Office under Duncan W. Peck, was the man who held him up for the final payment of \$1,500 to the Democratic state campaign fund of 1912.

At that time, Van Wirt says, the canal contract held by his firm amounted to \$317,000. A few months later, under an amendment to the contract, \$40,000 worth of additional work was provided for, and according to the percentages figured on by many of the contractors who have testified in the recent hearings the net profits on \$40,000 additional work would just about cover the \$4,500 which Van Wirt was forced to contribute.

Van Wirt's story, it was learned, made a tremendous impression upon the grand jurors, and he went over all the connecting details of dates and amounts to provide a comprehensive outline of the whole scheme. In his story, as told at the John Doe inquiry, it appeared that the assessments by Everett P. Fowler began immediately after Van Wirt's firm began road work, and continued to a climax when the

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DUDLEY E. VAN WIRT.

**MUNSEY'S TACTICS  
ALARM OFFICIALS**

His Latest Statement Seeks  
to Shift Responsibility  
to Them.

ASSERTIONS CAUSE  
BANKERS TO WONDER

They Fail to Agree with All His  
Explanation of the Trust  
Company Merger.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Dec. 10.—Publication in The Tribune of the statutes covering and penalizing the illegal deposit and acceptance of government funds in banks or elsewhere has been followed by an extensive statement signed by Frank A. Munsey, which is published in the local papers, and in which he seeks to avoid all responsibility for the deposit of \$1,000,000 in the Munsey Trust Company, going so far as to assert and reiterate that it was the purpose of the Treasury Department to deposit this amount in the United States Trust Company and, in effect, that on the Treasury officials alone rests all responsibility.

Mr. Munsey's efforts to sidestep responsibility have caused grave alarm among those Treasury officials responsible for the deposit, and especially is the situation alarming to John Burke, Treasurer of the United States, who, together with the surety company which furnished his bond, is, in the last analysis, responsible for the million dollars of government funds.

Swidler and Peters, the two Munsey employees who assaulted a newsboy for selling copies of The Tribune in the streets of Washington, were arraigned in the police court to-day and appealed for trial by jury, their appeal being granted.

Security with the Controller.

Following The Tribune's announcement that, under the law applying to the District of Columbia, trust companies are required to deposit with the Controller of the Currency securities equal to one-fourth of the capital stock of such companies as security for the trusts confided to them, it is asserted to-day that the sole security deposited by the Munsey Trust Company of Washington with the Controller of the Currency was a certificate of deposit of that company with the Munsey Trust Company of Baltimore for one-fourth of its \$2,000,000 capital stock, or \$500,000.

Bankers who know of this transaction are asking, as suggested in The Tribune this morning, whether the \$724,703.36 which Mr. Munsey said in his former statement was deposited in other banks, and was immediately available, included this \$500,000 deposited in his Trust Company of Baltimore.

The Munsey statement of to-day has aroused much interest in banking circles, not only because it seeks to place all responsibility for the \$1,000,000 deposit of government funds on officials of the Treasury and to avoid all responsibility therefor by Mr. Munsey, but because it contains so many assertions which they regard as half or misleading statements.

Mr. Munsey obviously seeks to create the impression that his first real knowledge of the transactions which led to the absorption of the United States Trust Company was acquired when he arrived in Washington "a little before 5" on the afternoon of November 21.

Mr. Munsey's Statement.

"On my way from the Union Station," Mr. Munsey says, "I saw a long line of depositors at several branches of the United States Trust Company waiting to withdraw their savings."

This statement arouses curiosity as to the route pursued by Mr. Munsey on his way from the station to his hotel, as he could not, without having gone far out of his way, have passed more than one branch of the United States Trust Company, and at that one, at Pennsylvania avenue and 10th street, there was no line of depositors after the bank closed at 3 p. m.

Furthermore, it is pointed out, Mr. Munsey says he had "known nothing of the troubles of the United States Trust Company."

Continued on fourth page, second column.

**JAMES MARSHALL MISSING**

Rich Fall River Hatmaker Dis-  
appears in Grand Central.

The police are looking for James Marshall, of Fall River, who disappeared on Tuesday afternoon from the Grand Central Terminal while waiting to take a train for a sanatorium in White Plains.

Marshall, who was senior member of the hat manufacturing firm of Marshall & Brothers, of Fall River, left home with Dr. Augustus Buck, who was with him just before he dropped out of sight at the terminal. The manufacturer was suffering from nervous breakdown. It was feared he might have wandered to some other city. He was well supplied with money and wore valuable jewelry.

**GETS MANTLE OF JUSTICE**

Judge Gives Prisoner Coat to  
Wear in Chill Cell.

The plea of a prisoner who dreaded the chill air of a Tombs cell so affected Magistrate Levy, in the Tombs court, yesterday that he gave the man his overcoat. He then sent a messenger for another, which he wore home after court closed.

The prisoner was James Rice, who Haskell Grubert, a Whitehall street clothing dealer, accused of having stolen an overcoat. After Grubert had completed his testimony and the prisoner had been remanded to the Tombs, Rice turned to Magistrate Levy and asked:

"Your honor, can't I wear the coat? I have none, and it is cold in the Tombs prison."

The magistrate replied that he would have to deny the request, as the overcoat must be held as evidence. Then, going into his room, he returned with a wrap over his arm.

"You may take this coat," he said to the prisoner. "I have another."

**BABY REBUFS DIPLOMAT**

Princess Juliana Wouldn't Take  
Hand of "Ugly Man."

[By Cable to The Tribune.]

The Hague, Dec. 11.—Princess Juliana, Queen Wilhelmina's four-year-old daughter, heirless to the throne of the Netherlands and idol of the Dutch nation, has just performed her first public act. With all due ceremony she handed on Order of the Orange to a coachman who celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of his entry into the service of the royal family. The princess conducted herself with dignity and lapsed a few gracious words in royal style to the delighted old coachman.

The princess is made much of both by her parents and the court, and the self-will displayed by her more than once has led to rather disconcerting scenes. On one occasion she flatly refused to shake hands with an Asiatic diplomatist who was presented to her on the ground that he was an ugly man.

**TAKE ARMS AT FLEETWOOD**

Ammunition also Seized on the  
Way to Ireland.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]

London, Dec. 11.—The activity of the customs officials in carrying into effect a proclamation prohibiting the exportation of arms and ammunition to Ireland was followed by a series of large seizures at Fleetwood yesterday. This is the port of embarkation for practically all cargo consigned to Belfast, and not a package is allowed to escape scrutiny.

Steamers arriving at Belfast were asked, "Have you any arms to declare?" The luggage was searched in many instances, but at this port special staff customs officers did not make a single capture.

Several women were among the passengers suspected of gun running, and were called upon to declare that they were not carrying a concealed armory about with them.

**FINDS HUGE SPOT ON SUN**

Astronomer Says Its Area Is  
409,936,709 Square Miles.

San Jose, Cal., Dec. 10.—Father Jerome Ricard, of Santa Clara University, discovered a sun spot to-day, the largest seen in two years.

The sun spot is in longitude 9:14:24 degrees east of the central meridian. It is due to a heliocentric conjunction of the earth with Saturn on December 7.

The new sun spot has an area of 409,936,709 square miles. It is 32,013.15 miles long and 12,805.28 miles wide.

**PIN STICKS FAST  
IN GIRL'S THROAT**

Enters Mouth as She Laughs in  
School, and Physician Fails  
to Dislodge It.

Sea Cliff, L. I., Dec. 10.—Rose Wade, fourteen years old, the adopted daughter of Mrs. Louis M. Young, will tomorrow probably undergo an operation for the removal of a pin in her throat which she swallowed yesterday afternoon while in school.

The girl was fixing a pin with an ordinary pin. Some one spoke to her, she laughed and the pin, held between her fingers, went into her mouth. She tried to get the pin out, but failed, and the teacher had her taken to the home of Dr. Edwin Braynard.

Dr. Braynard found the pin had become lodged in the child's throat. She was placed on the operating table, but in spite of two hours' work with instruments the physician was unable to dislodge the pin. The child's throat became so sore that further operations could not be attempted.

**REBELS BEGIN  
HOT FIGHT TO  
TAKE TAMPICO**

Four Thousand Troops in  
Concerted Attack on  
Mexican Port.

ASSAULT THE CITY  
AT VARIOUS POINTS

American Consul Urged by  
Their Leader to Remove  
Foreigners.

SHIPS PREPARE TO ACT

Rear Admiral Fletcher Ready to  
Rescue Americans and Land  
Marines if Needed.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]

Mexico City, Mex., Dec. 10.—Four thousand rebel troops under Generals Villareal and Castro began a concerted attack on Tampico at 11 o'clock this forenoon, advancing on the city from various points.

The War Department acknowledged that fighting had begun, but gave out a report that the rebels had been repulsed. Private advices, however, declared that fighting was in progress at 5 o'clock this afternoon.

A rebel assault on Tampico had been expected here ever since the fall of Ciudad Victoria was admitted. It is believed the Constitutionalists will make a determined effort to capture the city, which is in some respects the most important port of the republic.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]

Vera Cruz, Mexico, Dec. 10.—The Mexican gunboat Vera Cruz is under hurry orders to proceed to Tampico with ammunition and more troops. General Joaquin Maas is on the way to that port from Tuxtepec.

John Lind has advised that 4,000 rebels have attacked the Plaza, but it is believed here that the Federals are strong enough to resist them. Mr. Lind and Consul Canada are aboard the battleship Michigan, receiving wireless information from Rear Admiral Fletcher at Tampico.

The battleship Louisiana left here to-night for Tampico.

According to advices received by wireless telegraph this morning from Clarence A. Miller, American Consul at Tampico, a messenger from General Villareal, the rebel commander, reached the American Consulate last night with the information that 4,000 rebels, commanded by Generals Villareal and Castro, were approaching the city. The advance guard, it is said, had reached Laguna Puente, nine miles from Tampico.

General Villareal declared his intention of proceeding with the least possible delay to assault the city. He said that he had given his followers strict orders to refrain as far as possible from the destruction of property and to make every effort to protect the lives of foreigners, but he feared that they would be gravely imperilled in the confusion resulting from an assault on the city and the consequent fighting in the streets. For this reason General Villareal earnestly requested the American authorities to take immediate steps to remove all foreign residents from the place.

Rear Admiral Frank F. Fletcher, commander of the United States fleet, made preparations to take on board of his vessel at a moment's notice all foreigners, and to land marines if it appeared advisable.

It is understood that the captain of the German cruiser Bremen conferred with Rear Admiral Fletcher on the question of the landing of marines and gave a courteous assurance that he would act in complete harmony with the American admiral's desires.

**ATTACK ON TAMPICO  
AROUSSES WASHINGTON**

Interest Again Turns Toward  
Mexican Oil Fields and  
Rebel Activity.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Dec. 10.—Interest of the administration in Mexico has again turned to the oil regions around Tampico. This interest is made all the more keen by the fact that two more British warships are being rushed to Mexican waters. As far as could be learned to-day this government has not been informed of the intention of England to reinforce its naval strength in Mexico. Officials said that they did not know what caused the action of the Admiralty in London. Some one in high authority suggested that perhaps England was simply preparing for an emergency, but at the same time all officials refused to admit that an emergency was, as far as they knew, at hand.

The reason is believed to be that the rebels are threatening Tampico. Reports have reached the State Department that the rebels have already begun an assault upon the port. It is probable that the British Consul at that point has called for more warships. The Federals have about two

Continued on third page, second column.

**NOW AN ELECTRIC CHICKEN**

Birds Lose Nervousness and  
Thrive in Marvellous Manner.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]

London, Dec. 11.—An electric chicken is the latest idea in poultry farming, according to Thorne Baker, who lectured before the Royal Society of Arts last night. When the chickens are electrically treated they lose their nervousness and seem to thrive in a marvellous manner.

Mr. Baker came to the conclusion that the most profitable application of electricity to the farm was in poultry rearing. Mortality was practically non-existent where suitable electrification was used.

The vitality of the chickens treated was remarkable. Instead of running away when a finger was put to the netting they would rush up and peck it vigorously. They were so highly charged with electricity that quite a distinct shock was felt in the fingers on touching them, although the birds were supremely unconscious of anything, and the sparks which flew from their beaks on pecking one's finger did not appear to be felt in the least by them.

**SCHOOLS LOSE MRS. YOUNG**

Withdraws at Opposition to  
Her Re-election.

Chicago, Dec. 10.—Mrs. Ella Flagg Young, for the last four years Superintendent of Schools of this city, failed to be re-elected by the Board of Education to-day. John D. Shoop, Assistant Superintendent, was chosen in her place. When the first ballot showed that the members of the board were not unanimous in her favor Mrs. Young withdrew.

Mrs. Young's withdrawal was followed by the resignation of Peter Reinberg, president of the board, who in a fiery speech denounced the members who had voted against Mrs. Young and said he could not serve with men in whom he had no confidence and who had violated faith reposed in them by resorting to a secret ballot in defiance of the expressed wishes of Mayor Harrison.

**MERCURY KILLS  
SELDON HICKS**

Operation Fails to Save Youth,  
Who Dies, Not Knowing  
What Caused Illness.

Seldon Hicks, twenty-five years old, a civil engineer, son of Stephen Hicks, a retired farmer of Rocky Hill Road, Bayville, Long Island, died in the Flushing Hospital last night from mercury poisoning, following an operation Tuesday afternoon, when his kidneys were removed and cleaned in the hope of saving his life.

Physicians who were attending the young man said he was not aware that he had taken the poison, believing he had indigestion. His family denied they knew he took the poison. Dr. Francis Hart, coroner's physician, will perform an autopsy to-day to determine the cause of death.

Hicks, who was a graduate of Columbia University, became ill on Saturday and on Monday was removed to the hospital. According to his physician, Dr. Harris A. Houghton, of Bayville, Hicks returned home from Walden, N. Y., on Saturday, saying he felt ill. He had consulted a physician in Walden and was told that he had indigestion. On Saturday night Hicks's father found the young man vomiting. Dr. Houghton was called, and on Monday he ordered the young man removed at once to the hospital. When he was operated on his condition was such that little hope was held out for his recovery.

Dr. Houghton said he did not know how or when young Hicks took the mercury, but it is supposed that, feeling ill upon his return on Saturday, he mistook it for other medicine.

**DYING, SHE WANTS  
FATHER TO FORGIVE**

Operation Fails to Save Miss  
Schenck—He Is Sent For  
in Haste.

Florence Rosser Schenck, who underwent an operation six days ago at Miss Alston's sanatorium, No. 26 West 61st street, knows she has only a few days to live and has asked that her father, Dr. Powhatan S. Schenck, of Norfolk, Va., be summoned. A telegram was sent him last night, and the young woman is hoping that her approaching death may bring him to forgive her.

The one friend that remains to her is Dr. Edward P. Teague, who had her placed in the sanatorium. No word has come from Charles H. Wilson, Alfred Vanderbilt's stable manager, who, she has always insisted, is her husband, and her family are as silent as they were when she was living a luxurious life in London, Paris and New York.

Dr. Teague has assumed responsibility for all Mrs. Wilson's expenses at the sanatorium and has attended her day and night. Assisted by Dr. D. A. McAuliffe he performed the operation last week which promised a longer lease of life, but the promise failed. He is now trying to arrange a meeting between father and daughter.

**Submarine Sinks; Crew Saved.**

Plymouth, England, Dec. 10.—The submarine C-4 sank in Plymouth Sound to-day, as the result of a collision. The crew were rescued. This is the first British submarine lost without the sacrifice of life.

No. 100,000,000 omits Dr. Siegert's ANGSTURA BITTERS in punches and fancy drinks.—Adv.



HOWARD ELLIOTT.  
(Photograph by Puck Studio.)

**'PUCK,' PEN IN REST,  
JOINS 'THE MASSES'**

Socialists Absorb and May  
Yet Assimilate Merry  
Weekly Paper.

FUTURE POLICY  
IS AN ENIGMA

Sly Jest About Mortal Weakness  
Will Be Lost in Deal, It  
Is Reported.

"Puck," the comic weekly whose motto is "What Fools These Mortals Be," has been taken over by "The Masses," a socialist monthly that prints a three-page story about every person who possesses over \$125.

What the terms of the deal are no one who knows anything about them will reveal. Morris Hillquit, who is actively mixed up in the progress of the Socialist party and is charged with being a frequent contributor to "The Masses," admitted last night that the deal was under way, but he insisted that all the arrangements had not been completed.

Joseph Keppler, who is now seventy-six years old, founded "Puck," with the assistance of Adolph Schwarzmann, about thirty-five years ago. Keppler drawing the principal cartoons for the humorous Democratic weekly. Mr. Keppler is now the president of the concern and Mr. Schwarzmann vice-president. The publication offices are at No. 295 Lafayette street.

"The Masses," which is a comparatively recent outburst, is directed from No. 150 Nassau street. The officers are Eugene Wood, president; Max Eastman, vice-president, and William Watson, secretary. It has a capital of \$10,000.

"Puck" long wielded a power in politics and enjoyed not only a large newstand sale but was called on to while away hours in trains and during the course of a haircut. A barber was known by the comic weekly he bought and its jokes schooled the readers in human evolution and trained the memory.

"The Masses," on the other hand, has backed away from the facetious with extended arms. A joke was regarded with the same distaste as a millionaire. Its policy has been to use a sledgehammer on anybody who owned a limousine or could purchase two meals in one week at Delmonico's. Money could not be mentioned in its columns unless preceded by three or four expletives. It never printed the picture of a man in evening clothes.

Just what the policy of the joint papers is to be now is causing wonder. Whether there will be a change of the names which will involve a corruption of the two titles is not known. It is possible that some of the jokes will be placed in "The Masses" and some of the eight-ton articles transferred to "Puck." Perhaps the two magazines will be put out under one cover.

In any event it is pretty certain that in a few months the line "What fools these mortals be" will be heaved from the "Puck" cover.

**PREMIER FEARS WOMEN**

British Columbia Official Won't  
Put in Suffrage Bill.

Victoria, B. C., Dec. 10.—In reply to a large deputation of women who called upon him to-day Sir Richard McBride refused their request for the introduction of a suffrage bill by the government of British Columbia. He suggested that the question would have to be brought in by a private member.

The Premier said he feared that if women got the vote they would soon sit in Parliament, and it would be reasonable to suppose that some time they would form a woman's party and thus attempt to run the affairs of the country.

**\$10,000 Pearl Necklace Stolen.**

[By Cable to The Tribune.]

Paris, Dec. 10.—Burglars ransacked the mansion of the Comte de Beaurevoir, in the Rue Monceau, yesterday. Money, furs, jewelry, including a \$10,000 pearl necklace, costly curios and pictures are missing. The owner was absent in the country. There is no clue to the thieves.

**NEW HAVEN  
DIVIDEND IS  
SUSPENDED**

For First Time in Forty  
Years Stockholders Will  
Get No Profits.

MANY BIG EXPENSES,  
ONE REASON GIVEN

Elliott, in a Statement, Says  
Wages and Safety Will  
Cost Much.

BLOW A HARD ONE  
TO NEW ENGLANDERS

Road Once Paid 10 Per Cent,  
Then 8, Finally 6—Anxious  
Queries Come by Scores.

For the first time in forty years the New Haven road has failed to declare a regular dividend. The directors, after more than two hours' discussion, voted unanimously yesterday afternoon that the best interests of the stockholders would be better conserved by suspending the quarterly dividend "at this time."

Howard Elliott, the chairman of the board, in a statement at the close of the meeting said the company was entering upon a dull season, and that the increase in wages called for by the arbitration board, the improvements to which the road is committed in the interests of safety and efficiency, and important lawsuits and investigations pending, all of which would be heavy drains on the resources of the road, all combined to make necessary the suspension of the dividend.

He said the New Haven was a "strong company," with securities and real estate worth many millions, which in time might be marketed to strengthen the cash resources of the company.

"It is very difficult to sell property and securities at this time," he said, "and the directors believe it is unwise to attempt to do so, until general conditions are better."

No Hint as to Future.

When Mr. Elliott was asked whether the suspension of the quarterly dividend was an indication of a suspension of subsequent dividends for the fiscal year he said the future would have to look out for that.

One of the most important considerations which the directors faced was the legality of the company's bonds as savings bank investments, as the laws of several states required at least 4 per cent on common stock for five consecutive years before the bonds could be legal investments for the banks governed by them.

"The board found that the company has already paid 5 per cent on its common stock for the calendar year, and therefore the bonds are protected," Mr. Elliott explained.

Reports of the impending suspension of dividend wrought most of its havoc on New Haven stock in Wall Street last Tuesday, when it fell to the new low record of 7 1/2. Yesterday the stock closed at 7 3/4, up 1/4, but declined during the day to 7 1/2, less than one-third its quoted price a few years ago. Between 1887 and 1893 New Haven sold at 27 1/2. In 1902 it sold as high as 25. Since the election of Charles S. Mellen to the presidency the stock has declined slowly but surely, and it is estimated that upward of \$100,000,000 has been lost to New England investors alone during his regime.

From 1873, the year of its organization, until 1880, the New Haven paid 10 per cent. In 1881 it paid 7 1/2, but in 1882 it resumed paying 10 per cent until 1894, when it dropped to 9 per cent. The next year it dropped to 8 per cent, which was maintained until the March quarter of 1913, when it was cut to 6 per cent.

**Action a Blow to Many.**

Yesterday's meeting of the directors was perhaps the most momentous event in the history of the road. All over the country, but particularly in New England, the decision of the board meant relative luxury, or comfort or even poverty for those who anxiously waited to learn what the serious score of men sitting around the magnificent walnut table in the president's room at the Grand Central Terminal might do.

Before the Mellen days the New Haven was the pride of New England, and especially of shrewd Yankees. Widows and orphans considered